Department of Permits and Development Management 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

In the Matter of

Civil Citation No.76906

Elizabeth W. Brown

1729 Edgewood Road

Respondent

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW FINAL ORDER OF THE CODE ENFORCEMENT HEARING OFFICER

This matter came before the Baltimore County Code Enforcement Hearing Officer on June 30, 2010, for a Hearing on a citation for violations of the Baltimore County Code (BCC) section 35-5-302 (b)(1)(3)(5), failure to replace flashing and gutter on side of house, failure to replace all rotted wood on residential property zoned DR 10.5 known as 1729 Edgewood Road, 21234.

On June 7, 2010, pursuant to § 3-6-205, Baltimore County Code, Inspector Jeffrey Radcliffe issued a Code Enforcement & Inspections Citation. The citation was sent to the Respondent by 1st class mail to the last known address listed in the Maryland State Tax Assessment files.

The citation proposed a civil penalty of \$6,000.00 (six thousand dollars).

The Respondent failed to request a Code Enforcement Hearing and/or failed to appear after requesting a Hearing. Baltimore County Code, § 3-6-205(d) provides that in case of failure to request a Code Enforcement Hearing or if the violator (Respondent) fails to appear after requesting a Hearing then the citation and the civil penalty, shall be the Final Order of the Code Official not subject to appeal.

After proper consideration of all the evidence presented, the Hearing Officer finds:

- A. A Correction Notice was issued on May 3, 2010 for removal of trash and debris, cut and remove tall grass and weeds, repair, replace or remove rear canopy awnings, repair/replace rotted fascia wood, repair/replace flashing and gutter on side of house. This Citation was issued on June 7, 2010.
- B. Photographs in the file show gutters are missing on the side of the house, and the fascia board along the roof line is peeling and damaged. Respondent is required by law to maintain the exterior of the house at least in conformance with county code standards, including keeping all "[e]xposed surfaces of metal or wood in good repair, in a structurally sound condition, and protected against decay, rust, peeling, or flaking." BCC Section 35-5-302. The fascia board must be repaired and painted, and the gutters must be replaced to protect the building foundation.
- C. Because compliance is the goal of code enforcement, the civil penalty will be rescinded if the violations are corrected within the time provided below.

IT IS ORDERED by the Code Enforcement Hearing Officer that a civil penalty be imposed in the amount of \$500.00 (five hundred dollars).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the civil penalty will be RESCINDED and reduced to zero dollars if the violations are corrected by August 17, 2010.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if not paid within thirty days of billing, the civil penalty, as authorized above, shall be imposed and placed as a lien upon the property.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the County inspect the property to determine whether the violations have been corrected.

ORDERED this 7^{th} day of July 2010

Signed: ORIGINAL SIGNED

Margaret Z. Ferguson

Baltimore County Hearing Officer

MZF/jaf